

AFFAIRS IN EUROPE

**ENGLAND UNDERTAKES THE PART
OF PRACEMAKER.**

She Will Test Russia's Willingness to Negotiate—Active Military Preparations in Russia—Bismarck's Schemes—Declaration of

THE EASTERN WAR.
ENGLAND PROFFERS MEDIATION TO RUSSIA.
LONDON, Dec. 28.—The *Advertiser* publishes the following in official form: "We understand that the Sultan has solicited the British government to approach the Czar with a view to bring about negotiations for peace, and the British government has consented to do so."

OFFICIALLY CONFIRMED.
LONDON, Dec. 28.—The *Advertiser's* announcement that the British government has consented to the solicitation of the Porte to approach the Czar with a view to bringing about negotiations for peace is officially confirmed.

POSED.

The Post, in its leading article, says the decision which England has undertaken is not embarrassing to any body for the settlement of the war, and involves nothing more than to test the willingness of Russia to enter into negotiations, the terms of peace being a matter for subsequent consideration.

RUSSIA ORDERING HEAVY REINFORCEMENTS

GERMANY.

LONDON, Dec. 28.—A Berlin dispatch to the Times confirms the following: The Emperor seems to have approved the substance of the proposals submitted by HIMMAUCK'S PLANS APPROVED BY THE EMPEROR.

[illegible]

It is stated that Mr. Bishop, the Englishman, who was recently arrested on suspicion of treason, has handed to the French government some German military papers, which he obtained from a cler-

BETTER RELATIONS WITH FRANCE.
The appointment of M. Waddington to be Minister of Foreign Affairs in the French cabinet and of the Marquis de St. Vallier to be French ambassador to Berlin is an earnest of better relations between Germany and France. The Marquis de St. Vallier is acceptable, both for his own sake and as the successor of Viscount de Gontaut-Biron, the retiring ambassador, who had the reputation of being an Ultramontane, and certainly was a person regarded in influential circles supposed to disapprove of the ecclesiastical policy of the government.

A Berlin dispatch to the *Full Mail Gazette* states that the estimates for next year have been submitted to the Federal Council. They exceed those of last year by 10,000,000 marks. The government propose an increase for the navy of 3,500,000 marks. In the ordinary department and 6,000,000 marks in the extraordinary department.

FRANCE.

M'MAHON DENIES AN INTENDED COUP D'ETAT

net discussed the Limoges affair. President Mahon warmly repudiated having every contemplated a coup d'etat, and declared that, as far as he was aware, nothing was intended beyond precaution against armed resistance, which some newspapers threatened, should the government have demanded dissolution.

These telegraphs the following: "Minister Waddington has notified the foreign governments that the French Cabinet will, in the event of a conciliatory settlement, conform to the understandings subsisting among the four Catholic powers. As regards the internal administration, policy of the Government will be to satisfy public worship estimates from those wishing to assail them, but will protect secular society from clerical encroachments. In regard to the Eastern question, M. Waddington thinks that France may preserve a purely expectant attitude."

the Emperor have opened negotiations, and when his mission will be accomplished, it will be the Emperor's duty to send the Emperor's ambassador by such an attitude does not hesitate to say at once that she could regard with indifference any changes in the Mod. ternism or the agitation of small surrounding States by questions which might be raised in connection with the purely Eastern question. France is disinterested relative to the Asiatic question, as even in regard to the organization of Turkey European provinces she has no alliances or en-

ITALY.
A VISIT FROM GAMBETTA EXPECTED.
LONDON, Dec. 28.—A special dispatch from Rome to the Pall Mall Gazette says: "M. Leon Gambetta the well-known French Republican, is expected here for an informal conference with the new Ministry, on the policy of Italy toward the Vatican and on the Eastern question."

THE CABINET NOT PERMANENT.
LONDON, Dec. 22.—The *Standard's* despatch from Rome says nobody believes that the present ministerial arrangement is permanent. It is said the King has consented to a dissolution of Parliament.

Gen. Grant at Malta.

LA VALLETTA, MALTA, Dec. 28.—Ex-President Grant and wife and son arrived here to-day on the United States steamer Vandalia, from Palermo. Salutes were exchanged between the steamer and the fortifications. Mr. William J. Stevens, the Consul agent of the United States, first, waited on the General, who then received a visit of welcome aboard the Vandalia from the port admiral and the

Three Children Burned to Death.
CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—News has just been received of a horrible accident, which occurred in Morgan township, Crawford County, Iowa. Carl Mamm and his wife locked their three children, aged respectively one, two and four, and fastened the door.

house on Christmas day, and went to hulk on. They were shortly apprised by a neighbor that their house was burning, and when they reached it it was wrapped in flames, and the children burned to death. The mother frantically tried to rush into the flames, but was forcibly prevented. The day being foggy prevented them from discovering the fire sooner.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—A mass-meeting of cigar makers on strike and their sympathizers was held to-night in Cooper Institute, over four thousand persons being present. A. Strasser, of the Cigar Makers' National Union, presided, and speeches denouncing manufacturers were made in English, Bohemian, and German. Resolutions were adopted setting forth that the struggle would be kept up until living wages and recognition of the union were complied with, and denouncing all compromise.

Alleged Murderers Arrested.
BOYKIN'S DEPOT, VA., Dec. 28.—Ismael and Ethelbert Smith, father and son, were arrested this morning by a detective of Richmond, for the murder of William H. Fuller, on the 24th inst.

son has made a full confession, and says his father shot Fuller twice. The prisoners were examined and committed to the Suffolk and Portsmouth jails for trial. Revenge was the cause of the murder.

on Christmas Day, and ever since his physicians had but little hope of his recovery.